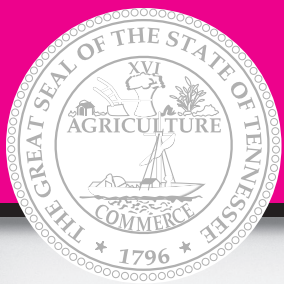


Name _____



Understanding the TCAP Achievement Test



Grade 8 Practice Test Pamphlet

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Introduction

What is the TCAP Achievement Test?

The TCAP Achievement Test is a multiple-choice test designed to measure student achievement in certain skills in five subject areas: Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The questions in this pamphlet are examples of items used in the actual test.

What are the questions testing?

Questions are written to test student performance in state and national content areas. The State Content Standards and Performance Indicators were developed by the Tennessee Department of Education. These Standards and Performance Indicators are listed on the State Department of Education Web site at <http://www.state.tn.us/education/ci/cistandards.htm>.

Who will be tested?

All students in grades 3 through 8 will be tested.

How long will the tests take?

The length of the tests will vary, depending on the grade level. The time limits are generous and allow most students time to finish. Extended time limits apply to students using accommodations.

How will the tests be scored?

The test answers will be machine scored. Results from the test provide information about how well students performed on the content being tested.

May calculators be used?

Calculators may be used on TCAP Achievement Grades 3–8 Mathematics subtests, Part 1 and Part 2. Calculators **may not** be used on any part of the K–2 test.

Which test accommodations may be used?

The TCAP Achievement Test may be administered using various procedures (or accommodations) that are used during the student's daily educational program. Certain conditions must be met for students to be eligible for Special and English Language Learner Accommodations.

What is the purpose of the practice test?

These questions may be used as a classroom learning session, or as an individual short practice test, to prepare students for the actual test. Teachers can use the practice test to help familiarize students with the format of test questions and how the actual test will be administered. This pamphlet can also be used to inform parents of the type of test their children will be taking.

Here are some tips for preparing students for the test.

Remind students to:

Relax: It is normal to be somewhat anxious before the test. Remember that the score is only one of a number of measures of performance.

Listen: Listen to and read the test directions carefully.

Plan Use of Time: First, answer all the questions you are sure about. Do not spend too much time on any one question. If a question seems to take too long, skip it and return to it later if you have extra time.

Pause and Think: If you are not sure how to answer a question, carefully read it again. Rule out answer choices that you know are incorrect and then choose from those that remain.

Reading



Directions Read the poem. Then do Numbers 1 and 2.

Room Revenge

By Juan Oliveres

My mother just doesn't get it
My father can't understand
How I can live in a room like this
Without even a clear place to stand

It started out simple enough
I'd fallen behind on my chores
But now there are clothes that are bursting
From long overstuffed doors and drawers

I no longer remember the carpet
Is it brown? Was it orange or green?
I do know I sure miss my puppy
It's been weeks since my poor Champ was seen!

The mess sometimes makes me feel comfy
The piles of tossed blankets and sheets
And all those clothes worn and dirty
Wrapping around my feet

My homework is lost in this mess
Who knows what a search might reveal?
Will I find my latest assignment?
Or drink cans, chip bags, orange peel?

Go On ►

My friends all stopped coming to visit
There's a smell that they just can't quite place
My brother thinks it's amazing
Like my room is a planet in space

At some point I know I must clean it
I'm starting to run out of clothes
I can no longer find my old radio
Even I can't help holding my nose

Oh, no! What's that low growl and rumble?
At this point I can't be too certain
My window is closed; there's no wind at all
And yet something's going on with the curtain

Will everything end with some horrible fate?
Will I end up on the news late tonight?
The headline will read, "Girl Swallowed by Room,
She was gone in just one dreadful bite!"

1 The author's purpose for writing the poem was most likely

- A** to describe a very messy room
- B** to entertain and amuse readers
- C** to persuade readers to clean their rooms
- D** to inform readers about the dangers of messy rooms

2 According to the poem, what fate does the girl fear?

- F** The mess smells so bad that it poisons her.
- G** The mess fills up the room and buries her.
- H** Her room is launched into orbit in outer space.
- J** Her room turns into a monster and swallows her.

STOP 

Language Arts



Directions Use the poem “Room Revenge” to answer Number 1.

1 Which rhyme pattern does the poem follow?

- A** *abab*
 - B** *abba*
 - C** *abcb*
 - D** *abca*
-

2 Which sentence is written correctly?

- F** Ian might choose to go into business because he loves his beginning advertising class.
- G** Javier called his grandmother on her anniversary to say congradulations.
- H** Kevin accidently spilled his soda right on the marshmellow pie.
- J** An arguement broke out, and two girls were escorted to the principle’s office.

STOP 

Mathematics



- 1** Jeremy rents a canoe for a one-time cost of \$30 and an additional cost of \$5 per hour. Which equation represents the total cost (C) for Jeremy to rent the canoe for h hours?

- A** $C = 30 + 5$
- B** $C = 30h + 5$
- C** $C = 30 + 5h$
- D** $C = (30 + 5)h$

- 2** Adrianne's beach umbrella casts a circular shadow with a radius of 36 inches. What is the area of the shadow?

- F** 36π square inches
- G** 72π square inches
- H** $1,296\pi$ square inches
- J** $5,184\pi$ square inches

STOP

Science



- 1** A scientist burns metallic sodium (Na) in the presence of oxygen (O₂) to form sodium oxide (Na₂O).

Which balanced equation correctly represents this reaction?

- A** $\text{Na} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Na}_2\text{O}$
- B** $\text{Na} + 2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{NaO}$
- C** $4\text{Na} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{Na}_2\text{O}$
- D** $4\text{Na} + 2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{NaO}$

- 2** Which statement describes how reptiles differ from amphibians?

- F** Reptiles are furry.
- G** Reptiles have scales.
- H** Reptiles are ectotherms.
- J** Reptiles have vertebral columns.

STOP 

Social Studies



Directions

Read the Act. Then answer Number 1.

88TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H.R. 7152

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 10, 1964

Ordered printed as passed the House

AN ACT

To enforce the constitutional right to vote, to confer jurisdiction upon the district courts of the United States to provide injunctive relief against discrimination in public accommodations, to authorize the Attorney General to institute suits to protect constitutional rights in public facilities and public education, to extend the Commission on Civil Rights, to prevent discrimination in federally assisted programs, to establish a Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 that this Act may be cited as “The Civil Rights Act of
4 1963.”

1 Based on the text above, one role the government has in promoting change is to

- A** create laws that protect the rights of citizens
- B** promote effective advertising to sway public opinion
- C** rewrite the Constitution to align with political opinion
- D** allow unlawful advantages to those needing assistance

2 Which document is an example of a secondary source?

- F** a diary entry of a pioneer family traveling West
- G** a letter from a soldier in the Civil War to his family
- H** a photograph showing the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad
- J** a Web site about the history of immigration to the United States

STOP 

Answer Key

Item Number	Reading	Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies
1	B	C	C	C	A
2	J	F	H	G	J

